

Demonstration of the Spirit and Power

1 Cor 1:30—2:5

1 Corinthians 1:30

From God alone--have life through Christ Jesus.

God is agency and power behind salvation.

In Christ Jesus: in union, fellowship and communion with Christ Jesus

2 Corinthians 5:17

who of God is made unto us: Because of power and authority of God—Christ became for us and demonstrated in us :

Supernaturally gave us, through His son, Jesus Christ:

1. Wisdom, at instant of salvation,

See things from God's point of view

Practically apply Biblical truth to life's situations.

Mac: God grants them His wisdom that He might be glorified, that it might be clearly seen that the wisdom Christians have is not their own but is by His power and grace.... Yet the simplest, most uneducated person who humbly places his life in Christ's hands is given the truth about all of these things. He knows what all the sages and philosophers of all time have never been able to discover or will ever be able to discover. He has God's wisdom as one of His Savior's precious gifts.

2 Corinthians 4:6

Instant and progressive: Ephesians 1:17-18

2. Righteousness,

Right standing with God.

God declares righteous and places His righteousness in me.

God looks on me--sees His Son

Romans 4:5 2 Corinthians 5:21

Unrighteousness exchanged for Christ's righteousness

Christ's righteousness replaces his unrighteousness.

Philippians 3:9

3. Sanctification: set apart; holy.

Positional or judicial sanctification.

As grow in Lord --becomes ours practically or actually.

Gal 5:22-23 2 Cor 3:18. Eph 2:10

4. Redemption: to buy out of market place of sin; released/set free from bondage and penalty of sin

1 Peter 1:18-19

Wiersbe, 3 tenses of salvation

Righteousness: saved from penalty of sin
Sanctification: being saved from power of sin
Redemption: shall be saved from presence of sin

1 Corinthians 1:31

Main purpose of wisdom --He be glorified.

Never able to boast before God because of our part in salvation.

Ephesians 2:8 Galatians 6:14

1 Corinthians 2:1

Transparency.

Why God uses weak things of world to confound wise

1. Approach

When first came to Corinth, not try impress you with eloquence and philosophy and Greek rhetoric.

Wiersbe: The itinerant philosophers and teachers depended on their wisdom and eloquence to gain followers. The city of Corinth was filled with such "spellbinders." Paul did not depend on eloquent speech or clever arguments; he simply declared God's Word in the power of the Spirit. He was an ambassador, not a "Christian salesman."

Testimony: witness.

Only testify of what personally experienced, and seen.

2 Corinthians 4:1-2

The main job of ministry--manifest truth of God!

2 Timothy 4:2

2. **Message** 1 Corinthians 2:2

Determined: Made resolution.

Know: attend to; be engaged in; regard

Barnes: This should be the resolution of every minister of the gospel. This is his business. It is not to be a politician; not to engage in the strifes and controversies of men; it is not to be a good farmer, or scholar merely; not to mingle with his people in festive circles and enjoyments; not to be a man of taste and philosophy, and distinguished mainly for refinement of manners;....but to make Christ crucified the grand object of his attention, and seek always and everywhere to make him known.

Not saying-only messages preach be evangelistic or only parts of scripture expound those dealing with salvation and atonement.

Acts 20:27 Acts 18:11

3. **Personality.**

1 Corinthians 2:3

Weakness: infirmity, frailty, feebleness, sickness

Fear: dread, terror, fright, alarm

Much trembling: quaking with fear.

Thayer's: *used to describe the anxiety of one who distrusts his ability completely to meet all requirements, but religiously does his utmost to fulfill his duty*

Lenski: *Run down as he was, he was a poor figure to come, face to face with people who admire oratory and philosophic presentation.*

Acts 18:8-11 Not allow any man *harm* you.

Josh. 1:5, 9

for I have much people in this city.

Paul, you have your eyes on the trees and can't see the forest. Rise above it and see the trail....Don't lose your vision, Paul!

1 Corinthians 2:4

Speech: private —content

Preaching: public —delivery.

Enticing words of man's wisdom: charisma—eloquence.

Mac: *He saw no place for calculated theatrics and techniques to manipulate response.*

Demonstration: make manifest; put on display:

Spirit: Holy Spirit.

Power: strength and ability

Blessings of ministry in church of Corinth not due to Paul's eloquence, wisdom, or great charisma.

Stott: *It seems that the only preaching God honors through which His wisdom and power are expressed is the preaching of a man who is willing in himself to be both the weakling and the fool.*

Spurgeon: *The power that is in the Gospel does not lie in the eloquence of the preacher, otherwise men would be the converter of souls, nor does it lie in the preacher's learning, otherwise it would consist in the wisdom of men. We might preach until our tongues rotted, till we would exhaust our lungs and die, but never a soul would be converted unless the Holy Spirit be with the Word of God to give it the power to convert the soul.*

4. Goal

1 Corinthians 2:5

I did this, because I wanted your faith to stand firmly upon God, not on man's great ideas.

Paul not interested in making religious people who agreed with doctrine.

Wanted to see genuine demonstrations of power of God.

Review:

Vv 30-31 Real foundation of why change in life.

God did it!

1. Wisdom
2. Righteousness
3. Sanctification
4. Redemption

So What? 2:1-5

1. **Approach:** Not try to impress...declared the testimony (power) of God.
2. **Message:** Salvation and crucified life
3. **Personality:** Not all about me
4. **Goal:** Base faith on power of God, not on man.

That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.